

WAC 197-11-960 Environmental checklist.

ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

Purpose of checklist:

The State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA), chapter 43.21C RCW, requires all governmental agencies to consider the environmental impacts of a proposal before making decisions. An environmental impact statement (EIS) must be prepared for all proposals with probable significant adverse impacts on the quality of the environment. The purpose of this checklist is to provide information to help you and the agency identify impacts from your proposal (and to reduce or avoid impacts from the proposal, if it can be done) and to help the agency decide whether an EIS is required.

Instructions for applicants:

This environmental checklist asks you to describe some basic information about your proposal. Governmental agencies use this checklist to determine whether the environmental impacts of your proposal are significant, requiring preparation of an EIS.

Answer the questions briefly, with the most precise information known, or give the best description you can.

You must answer each question accurately and carefully, to the best of your knowledge. In most cases, you should be able to answer the questions from your own observations or project plans without the need to hire experts. If you really do not know the answer, or if a question does not apply to your proposal, write "do not know" or "does not apply." Complete answers to the questions now may avoid unnecessary delays later.

Some questions ask about governmental regulations, such as zoning, shoreline, and landmark designations. Answer these questions if you can. If you have problems, the governmental agencies can assist you.

The checklist questions apply to all parts of your proposal, even if you plan to do them over a period of time or on different parcels of land. Attach any additional information that will help describe your proposal or its environmental effects. The agency to which you submit this checklist may ask you to explain your answers or provide additional information reasonably related to determining if there may be significant adverse impact.

Use of checklist for nonproject proposals:

Complete this checklist for nonproject proposals, even though questions may be answered "does not apply." IN ADDITION, complete the SUPPLEMENTAL SHEET FOR NONPROJECT ACTIONS (part D).

For nonproject actions, the references in the checklist to the words "project," "applicant," and "property or site" should be read as "proposal," "proposer," and "affected geographic area," respectively.

A. BACKGROUND

1. Name of proposed project, if applicable: **Sadie Creek 4x4 Trail**

2. Name of applicant: Department of Natural Resources

3. Address and phone number of applicant and contact person:

Wayne Fitzwater
Department of Natural Resources, Olympic Region
411 Tillicum Lane
Forks, WA 98331

4. Date checklist prepared: August 24, 2004

5. Agency requesting checklist: Washington Department of Natural Resources

6. Proposed timing or schedule (including phasing, if applicable):

Project to be completed by 12/31/04.

7. Do you have any plans for future additions, expansion, or further activity related to or connected with this proposal? If yes, explain.

Not at this time.

8. List any environmental information you know about that has been prepared, or will be prepared, directly related to this proposal.

State Soil Survey
Forest Resource Plan, July 1992
Washington State Department of Natural Resources Habitat Conservation Plan, Sept. 1997 (HCP). Both the Forest Resource Plan and the HCP have been through the EIS process and have a final approved EIS.

9. Do you know whether applications are pending for governmental approvals of other proposals directly affecting the property covered by your proposal? If yes, explain.

No

10. List any government approvals or permits that will be needed for your proposal, if known.

Approval of a Hydraulic Project Application
Reviewed project for compliance with DNR's HCP Checklist
Reviewed through DNR Forest Practices Application Review System

11. Give brief, complete description of your proposal, including the proposed uses and the size of the project and site. There are several questions later in this checklist that ask you to describe certain aspects of your proposal. You do not need to repeat those answers on this page. (Lead agencies may modify this form to include additional specific information on project description.)

This is an existing user built section of ORV trail 1.87 miles in length on 10,240 acres of DNR managed trust lands. This project is planned to upgrade this trail to DNR standards to allow a slow technical 4x4 recreation experience in the Olympic Region. The DNR can then start to direct 4x4 activity into a specific area rather than uncontrolled across the landscape. This trail will have signed maintenance agreements with user groups, with yearly reviews. Other areas, which are being impacted by uncontrolled activity, can then be closed. This project will also include the installation of an appropriate stream-crossing culvert. This will replace an inadequate user-built structure, which has the potential to impact a Type 5 tributary of Murdock Creek. It is planned to incorporate this trail into the Sadie Creek ORV Trail system.

12. Location of the proposal. Give sufficient information for a person to understand the precise location of your proposed project, including a street address, if any, and section, township, and range, if known. If a proposal would occur over a range of area, provide the range or boundaries of the site(s). Provide a legal description, site plan, vicinity map, and topographic map, if reasonably available. While you should submit any plans required by the agency, you are not required to duplicate maps or detailed plans submitted with any permit applications related to this checklist.

Parts of Section 31, T31NR09W and parts of Section 30 T30NR09W in the Sadie Creek block of State Trust Lands located in Clallam County, Washington.

B. ENVIRONMENTAL ELEMENTS

1. Earth

a. General description of the site (circle one): Flat, rolling, hilly, steep slopes, mountainous, other

b. What is the steepest slope on the site (approximate percent slope)?

20%

c. What general types of soils are found on the site (for example, clay, sand, gravel, peat, muck)? If you know the classification of agricultural soils, specify them and note any prime farmland.

7109 - Sadie gravelly loam 0-35%, stable

d. Are there surface indications or history of unstable soils in the immediate vicinity? If so, describe.

Yes - However these areas are located in the steeper incised drainages. This proposal is located to avoid problem areas.

e. Describe the purpose, type, and approximate quantities of any filling or grading proposed.

Hand grading of on-site native material, only to the extent to provide a trail bed. Approximately 18 cubic yards of clean rock will be used as fill at the stream crossing.

Indicate source of fill.

DNR's Agate/Crescent Pit located approx. 5 miles east of project location.

f. Could erosion occur as a result of clearing, construction, or use? If so, generally describe.

Yes, small amounts of site-specific erosion may occur as a result of construction and use. Currently this user-built trail does not meet any standards with no regular maintenance. BMPs for trail construction and maintenance will be used. Drainage structures will be used as needed. The trail once completed, will actually reduce the risk of erosion from what exists at this point in time.

g. About what percent of the site will be covered with impervious surfaces after project construction (for example, asphalt or buildings)?

0%

h. Proposed measures to reduce or control erosion, or other impacts to the earth, if any:

Clean rock at Type 5 culvert location.

Drainage structures (water-bars or culverts) will be used to direct surface water onto native forest floor.

Air

a. What types of emissions to the air would result from the proposal (i.e., dust, automobile, odors, industrial wood smoke) during construction and when the project is completed? If any, generally describe and give approximate quantities if known.

Construction - small amounts of chainsaw exhaust.

Use - some increase above the current use is expected with the change from an ORV trail to one that will allow the use of 4x4 vehicles.

b. Are there any off-site sources of emissions or odor that may affect your proposal? If so, generally describe.

No.

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control emissions or other impacts to air, if any:

None

Water

a. Surface:

1) Is there any surface water body on or in the immediate vicinity of the site (including year-round and seasonal streams, saltwater, lakes, ponds, wetlands)? If yes, describe type and provide names. If appropriate, state what stream or river it flows into.

One Type 5 tributary to Murdock will be crossed using a culvert and clean rock ballast at an approved location which has been field reviewed by Region engineering staff.

2) Will the project require any work over, in, or adjacent to (within 200 feet) the described waters? If yes, please describe and attach available plans.

Yes, see attached plans

3) Estimate the amount of fill and dredge material that would be placed in or removed from surface water or wetlands and indicate the area of the site that would be affected. Indicate the source of fill material.

Approx. 18 cubic yards of clean rock fill will be used at the culvert installation site located on a Type 5 tributary of Murdock Creek. Source - Agate/Crescent pit.

4) Will the proposal require surface water withdrawals or diversions? Give general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known.

No

5) Does the proposal lie within a 100-year floodplain? If so, note location on the site plan.

Yes, at the one Type 5 stream crossing. Culvert and clean ballast rock will be used.

6) Does the proposal involve any discharges of waste materials to surface waters? If so, describe the type of waste and anticipated volume of discharge.

No

b. Ground:

1) Will ground water be withdrawn, or will water be discharged to ground water? Give general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known.

No

2) Describe waste material that will be discharged into the ground from septic tanks or other sources, if any (for example: Domestic sewage; industrial, containing the following chemicals. . . ; agricultural; etc.). Describe the general size of the system, the number of such systems, the number of houses to be served (if applicable), or the number of animals or humans the system(s) are expected to serve.

N/A

c. Water runoff (including stormwater):

1) Describe the source of runoff (including storm water) and method of collection and disposal, if any (include quantities, if known). Where will this water flow? Will this water flow into other waters? If so, describe.

Some surface runoff could occur from the trail surface. Approximately 10 drainage structures will be installed as needed during construction to divert surface water onto native forest floor. These will be placed along the trail as needed and could include log and or rubber water-bars or small culverts.

2) Could waste materials enter ground or surface waters? If so, generally describe.

No

d. Proposed measures to reduce or control surface, ground, and runoff water impacts, if any:

BMPs for trail design and construction will be used. Water control structures will be installed during construction. Trail adoption agreements will address maintenance timing and practices will be put into place with recreation user groups before construction.

4. Plants

a. Check or circle types of vegetation found on the site:

deciduous tree: alder, maple, aspen, other

evergreen tree: fir, cedar, pine, other, hemlock

shrubs x

grass

pasture

crop or grain

wet soil plants: cattail, buttercup, bullrush, skunk cabbage, other

water plants: water lily, eelgrass, milfoil, other

other types of vegetation

b. What kind and amount of vegetation will be removed or altered?

A minor amount of shrubs and trees will be removed to provide a trail corridor. <1,000 Bd.Ft. scattered along the 1.87 miles length of the trail

c. List threatened or endangered species known to be on or near the site.

A Traxs report was reviewed and no T&E species are located on or near this site.

d. Proposed landscaping, use of native plants, or other measures to preserve or enhance vegetation on the site, if any:

None

5. Animals

a. Circle any birds and animals which have been observed on or near the site or are known to be on or near the site:

birds: hawk, heron, eagle, songbirds, other:

mammals: deer, bear, elk, beaver, other:

fish: bass, salmon, trout, herring, shellfish, other:

b. List any threatened or endangered species known to be on or near the site.

None, based on Traxs report

c. Is the site part of a migration route? If so, explain.

No

d. Proposed measures to preserve or enhance wildlife, if any:

None

6. Energy and natural resources

a. What kinds of energy (electric, natural gas, oil, wood stove, solar) will be used to meet the completed project's energy needs? Describe whether it will be used for heating, manufacturing, etc.

N/A

b. Would your project affect the potential use of solar energy by adjacent properties? If so, generally describe.

No

c. What kinds of energy conservation features are included in the plans of this proposal? List other proposed measures to reduce or control energy impacts, if any:

N/A

7. Environmental health

a. Are there any environmental health hazards, including exposure to toxic chemicals, risk of fire and explosion, spill, or hazardous waste that could occur as a result of this proposal? If so, describe.

Minimal health risks - hand trail construction methods.

1) Describe special emergency services that might be required.

Firefighting - DNR and local RFDs

2) Proposed measures to reduce or control environmental health hazards, if any:

Compliance with all appropriate state laws

b. Noise

1) What types of noise exist in the area which may affect your project (for example: traffic, equipment, operation, other)?

None

2) What types and levels of noise would be created by or associated with the project on a short-term or a long-term basis (for example: traffic, construction, operation, other)? Indicate what hours noise would come from the site.

Construction - Minimal (Chainsaws during clearing operations and gravel haul)
Use - Daylight hours. Some noise increase is expected. Forest canopy will serve as a buffer. No neighbors within approximately two miles.

3) Proposed measures to reduce or control noise impacts, if any:

Vehicles must comply with all state laws regarding sound requirements

8. Land and shoreline use

a. What is the current use of the site and adjacent properties?

Clallam Forest Board Trust Land - long-term forestry

b. Has the site been used for agriculture? If so, describe.

No

c. Describe any structures on the site.

None

d. Will any structures be demolished? If so, what?

No

e. What is the current zoning classification of the site?

Commercial Forest

f. What is the current comprehensive plan designation of the site?

Commercial Forest

g. If applicable, what is the current shoreline master program designation of the site?

N/A

h. Has any part of the site been classified as an "environmentally sensitive" area? If so, specify.

No

i. Approximately how many people would reside or work in the completed project?

N/A

j. Approximately how many people would the completed project displace?

N/A

k. Proposed measures to avoid or reduce displacement impacts, if any:

N/A

l. Proposed measures to ensure the proposal is compatible with existing and projected land uses and plans, if any:

Compliance with the HCP, Sept. 1997, Forest Resource Plan, July 1992

9. Housing

a. Approximately how many units would be provided, if any? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing.

N/A

b. Approximately how many units, if any, would be eliminated? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing.

N/A

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control housing impacts, if any:

N/A

10. Aesthetics

a. What is the tallest height of any proposed structure(s), not including antennas; what is the principal exterior building material(s) proposed?

N/A

b. What views in the immediate vicinity would be altered or obstructed?

N/A

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control aesthetic impacts, if any:

N/A

11. Light and glare

a. What type of light or glare will the proposal produce? What time of day would it mainly occur?

N/A

b. Could light or glare from the finished project be a safety hazard or interfere with views?

No

c. What existing off-site sources of light or glare may affect your proposal?

None

d. Proposed measures to reduce or control light and glare impacts, if any:

None

12. Recreation

a. What designated and informal recreational opportunities are in the immediate vicinity?

Informal - At this time there is an existing user built ORV (quad) trail which is being proposed for upgrading to allow 4x4 use. This will allow a slow technical 4x4 experience.

Formal - Approx. one-half mile south of this proposed project is the Sadie Creek ORV Trail System. This 18 mile long trail allows both motorized and non-motorized recreation for hiking, horseback, mountain biking, and ORV use. By formalizing this site DNR can focus recreational 4x4 use into a managed area reducing impacts elsewhere.

b. Would the proposed project displace any existing recreational uses? If so, describe.

No

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts on recreation, including recreation opportunities to be provided by the project or applicant, if any:

Opening this user built trail will provide a 4x4 experience that is not available in the Olympic Region. Adopt-A-Trail agreements are being proposed for signature which will outline maintenance requirements, responsibilities, and a yearly review period.

13. Historic and cultural preservation

a. Are there any places or objects listed on, or proposed for, national, state, or local preservation registers known to be on or next to the site? If so, generally describe.

No, was made on the Traxs report and no hits were recorded for this site.

b. Generally describe any landmarks or evidence of historic, archaeological, scientific, or cultural importance known to be on or next to the site.

None known

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts, if any:

N/S

14. Transportation

a. Identify public streets and highways serving the site, and describe proposed access to the existing street system. Show on site plans, if any.

Highway 112, East Twin River Rd. and the PA-S-2600.

b. Is site currently served by public transit? If not, what is the approximate distance to the nearest transit stop?

No

c. How many parking spaces would the completed project have? How many would the project eliminate?

This project will use the existing Sadie Creek Trail parking area. No increase or decrease in parking is proposed.

d. Will the proposal require any new roads or streets, or improvements to existing roads or streets, not including driveways? If so, generally describe (indicate whether public or private).

No, this project will use an existing user-built trail to accommodate a slow technical 4x4 experience.

e. Will the project use (or occur in the immediate vicinity of) water, rail, or air transportation? If so, generally describe.

No

f. How many vehicular trips per day would be generated by the completed project? If known, indicate when peak volumes would occur.

Peak volumes should occur Friday through Monday on a seasonal basis. Over the course of the year we would anticipate an increase of 3-4 vehicular trips per day.

g. Proposed measures to reduce or control transportation impacts, if any:

Increased grading of the access road and parking area of the existing Sadie Creek parking area.

15. Public services

a. Would the project result in an increased need for public services (for example: fire protection, police protection, health care, schools, other)? If so, generally describe.

There is the potential for the need of a wildland fire response. Initial attack most likely would be from the Joyce RFD. Additional support and responsibility would be provided by DNR's wildland fire program in the rare case of a fire start in this area.

b. Proposed measures to reduce or control direct impacts on public services, if any.

None

16. Utilities

a. Circle utilities currently available at the site: electricity, natural gas, water, refuse service, telephone, sanitary sewer, septic system, other.

DNR provides outhouse facilities currently at the Sadie Creek Trailhead

b. Describe the utilities that are proposed for the project, the utility providing the service, and the general construction activities on the site or in the immediate vicinity which might be needed.

None

C. SIGNATURE

The above answers are true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand that the lead agency is relying on them to make its decision.

Signature: Wayne A. Trickett
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Date Submitted: 11/02/01
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